Application no.: 09/700,270 Docket no.: SGL-2009-US

AMENDMENT

In the claims

Please cancel claims 8-11 without prejudice or disclaimer. Provided hereafter is a complete listing of the claims.

1. (original) A method for diagnosing hypertension or a predisposition to hypertension comprising determining whether a risk polymorphism is present in the promoter of an inducible nitric oxide synthase (iNOS) gene.

2. (original) A method according to claim 1, wherein the risk polymorphism is a four base pair insertion located between positions -891 and -575 5' to the transcription start site in the promoter of the iNOS gene.

3. (previously presented) A method according to claim 1, comprising determining whether an individual is homozygous or heterozygous for a risk polymorphism in a NOS gene.

4. (previously presented) A method of diagnosis and treatment of hypertension comprising diagnosing hypertension or predisposition thereto according to claim 1, and treating an individual to reduce, prevent or otherwise ameliorate hypertension.

5. (original) A method of predicting response to hypertension therapy, comprising diagnosing genotype of an iNOS gene.

6. (original) A method of diagnosing hypertension or predisposition to hypertension comprising screening the whole of or a part of an iNOS gene for a polymorphism in linkage disequilibrium with a polymorphism in or near the promoter region of an iNOS gene.

7. (previously presented) A method of locating a further polymorphism correlated with a known polymorphism in or near the promoter region of an iNOS gene comprising;

a) locating a further polymorphism and correlating it with the known iNOS gene polymorphism; and

b) testing whether the further polymorphism is linked to hypertension or any contributory component thereof.

8-11 (cancelled).

12. (original) A method for diagnosing Syndrome X or a predisposition to Syndrome X comprising determining whether a risk polymorphism is present in the promoter of an inducible nitric oxide synthase (iNOS) gene.

13. (original) A method according to claim 12, wherein the risk polymorphism is a four base pair insertion located between positions -891 and -575 5' to the transcription start site in the promoter of the iNOS gene.

14. (original) A method of diagnosing Syndrome X or predisposition to Syndrome X comprising screening the whole of or a part of an iNOS gene for a polymorphism in linkage disequilibrium with a polymorphism in or near the promoter region of an iNOS gene.

15. (previously presented) A method according to claim 1, wherein said iNOS gene is a NOS2A gene.

16. (previously presented) A method according to claim 12, wherein said iNOS gene is a NOS2A gene.